

middle TOWN NEWS letter

September 2021

Historical Society Annual Meeting

Vermont historian Phillip Crossman will be the featured speaker at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Middletown Springs Historical Society on **Sunday, September 12, 2021, at 2 pm**, at the Historical Society building. Before a brief business meeting, including a review of the year's accomplishments by MSHS Trustees, there will be a dessert buffet prepared by Historical Society volunteers.

At 2:45 Mr. Crossman will give a slide presentation, **"Breeding Radicals: The Importation, Refinement, and Exportation of Social Conflict in Early Vermont (1761 – 1861)"**, adapted from his lecture as part of the Vermont Humanities Council Speakers Bureau.

Present-day Vermont has a reputation for offering a peaceful break from the hectic stress of discord elsewhere. However, Vermont's early history doesn't align with this perception. In this lecture, Philip Crossman looks at the turmoil in early Vermont and examines how political, cultural, religious, and personal contentions were imported from the older colonies, modified in Vermont, and then exported elsewhere.



Philip Crossman has spent most of his career teaching the humanities to high school and college students. His interest in Middle Eastern history was sparked by the several years he spent working in Jerusalem. Upon his return to Vermont, he completed a master's degree in Islamic-Western Relations at Norwich University and went on to pursue a Master's in Education in educational technology at the University of Toronto. He is currently an administrator at Community College of Vermont (CCV) and teaches part-time at CCV and Norwich University.

For more information, call David Wright 235-2376.



Book Walk & Lawn Sale

The Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library invite you to take a walk to the library while reading *The Very Busy Spider*, by Eric Carle. A book walk is literally what it sounds like: you walk and encounter the separate pages of the book you're reading along the way. The Friends are dedicated to aiding in the long-term support of our Library through yearly memberships and donations. If you have been meaning to visit the library, this is a great way to start! Look for the **Book Walk** signs in the school yard and follow the trail, starting at the bottom of the hill below the basketball court to the library. Stop in the library for a break and check out some books or pick up a Friends membership form while you are there.

Also, many folks have asked if the Friends will be holding their annual lawn sale this year. They are currently in the process of figuring out the details. Stay tuned to Front Porch Forum for more information regarding this event.

Thank you for your interest and support!

Note from the Town Treasurer

Your Property Tax payment for the first quarter of 2021/2022 is due before or on Wednesday, September 15.

Please remit your payment as follows:

1. MAIL to PO Box 1022, Middletown Springs, VT 05757 (with a 9/15/21 or earlier postmark.), or,
2. **DROP BOX on the OUTSIDE of the Town Office** by the end of the day of 9/15/2021.

Please note: For those of you who have still not received credit or notification of your homestead rebate, please pay the 1st quarter of your taxes as listed on your Property Tax Bill. Once we have been notified of your rebate by the State of Vermont, your taxes will be adjusted accordingly and you will be sent an updated property tax bill that will show a reduction for the second quarter payment.

Finally, if for some reason you have not yet received your property tax bill, please contact me at mtstreasurer@vermontel.net or 235-3256 and indicate for which property you need the bill, as well as the correct mailing address.

Thank you.

Jenny Talke Munyak, Town Treasurer

COVID-19 Memorial Service

In honor of Vermonters lost to COVID-19, **Vermont Interfaith Action** is hosting a memorial service on the Vermont Statehouse lawn in Montpelier at 3 p.m., **Sunday, Sept. 19.**

The heart of the event will be a ceremonial reading of the names of each individual who has died of COVID-19. In addition, there will be music, and several clergy and spiritual leaders will offer brief interfaith prayers and readings. Gov. Phil Scott has been invited, and Dr. Patsy Kelso, State Epidemiologist, will participate.

The event can be watched live on the VIA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/VermontInterfaithAction/>. If you are closely connected to a Vermonter who has died of COVID-19, and you would like to take part in the service, please contact Debbie Ingram at debbie@viavt.org or 802-651-8889.

Milestones

Deaths

William J. Stephenson

August 9, 2021

90 years

Please [send in](#) the major events in your life: a birth, a death, a marriage, new job, or graduation. We will list them here. If you send a longer announcement, we may need to edit for space but will do our best to keep the tone.

William J. Stephenson

William James Stephenson, 90, died Monday, Aug. 9, 2021. He was born Oct. 1, 1930, in Butler, Pennsylvania, the son of Raymond and Mary Elizabeth (Magill) Stephenson. He was educated in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, suburb of West View. Mr. Stephenson served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was married to Mildred "Midge" (Schaum) Stephenson for 67 years. He was employed as a manufacturer's representative by Starline Inc. traveling throughout Pennsylvania, and by his own company in Vermont for 40 years until his retirement in 1995.

Bill was a member of Rotary, a Paul Harris Fellow, Past President and Foundation Chair; and of Tinmouth Community Church. In Avon Park, Florida, he served on the local food pantry and was instrumental in starting the Heartland Food Bank. Survivors include his sons, Michael, Christopher; daughters, Erin Rudd, Kathryn Kappes; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The celebration of life will be 10 am on September 8 at Tinmouth Community Church. A private burial with military honors will be in Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Randolph Center. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Open Door Mission, 31 Park St., Rutland, VT 05741.

Online condolences can be left at www.robertsaubinfuneralhome.com.



NEW Tech at the Library

Check out the new **wireless color printer** and **portable air purifier** at the library. Purchased with a grant from the Department of Libraries, as part of CARES Act, the printer is available to those using the patron computer or from your own laptop, tablet, or phone. The air purifier is on when the library is open to help circulate and filter the air.

Thirty-three libraries received \$400 grants to support internet access and the measures required to reduce community spread of Covid-19. This grant is funded 100% by federal CARES Grant funds administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).



New Titles in the Library

Picture Books

Wren by Katrina Lehman

The Midnight Fair by Gideon Sterer

Our Little Kitchen by Jillian Tamaki

Crabcake by Andrea Tsurumi

Children's Chapter Books

Dog Man Mothering Heights by Dav Pilkey

Captain Underpants and the Tyrannical Retaliation of the Turbo Toilet 2000 by Dav Pilkey

Young Adult/Teen

Crooked Kingdom by Leigh Bardugo

Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo

Parenting

Hunt, Gather, Parent by Michaela Doucett

Wild Nights Out by Chris Salisbury

I Love Dirt!: 52 activities to help you and your kids discover the wonders of nature by Jennifer Ward

Adult Fiction

Golden Girl by Elin Hilderbrand

Hideaway by Nora Roberts

Community Calendar 2022

It's time to (re)subscribe to the Community Calendar! The "birthday calendar" is a long-standing tradition and lists many residents' birthdays as well as notices of the town's boards and committee regular meetings. Subscribers have the option of including family members' birthdays and anniversaries. Advertising sponsors underwrite the production costs of the calendar, and their ads highlight many of the businesses in town.



New in town and don't know what we're talking about? Stop in at the library and we will show you this year's calendar. You are welcome to take 2021's home as a welcome gift, while supplies last.

Watch FPF or your email inbox for our new Google forms with links to Paypal to make it easy to subscribe and pay. Or, use the [re-order form](#) between July & August in the current calendar to place your order. Calendars are \$8 before September 24 and \$10 after. Birthday and anniversary listings are included in the purchase price.

Advertising sponsors: Please support the Middletown Springs Community Calendar with your pre-paid ad block, visible for all 12 months on the calendar border. Include your family's birthdays and anniversaries on your complimentary copy of the calendar.

The final deadline for all submissions is September 24, 2021.

The calendar helps strengthen our community and the funds raised are used to support the town library, its collection and programming.

Thank you, the Library Trustees

Please, NO Book Sale Donations

The library is **unable to accept ANY** book donations at this time. There are more books than can possibly sell in one weekend. Donations will be accepted again on Monday, November 1. Please hang on to those donations until then.

Thank you for your understanding.

Finally, the Book Sale! The library will hold their first book sale since 2019 on October 9-11.

Calendar of Events

MSHS Annual Meeting	Sept 12	Sun, 2 pm	Historical Society
Property Tax DUE	Sept 15	Wed, all day	Town Office (dropbox)
<u>Regular Meetings</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
Conservation Commission	2nd Thurs /TBA	TBA	Elizabeth Cooper (235-1406)
Fire Dept. Training	Every Tues /6:30 pm	Firehouse	Joe Castle (235-2160)
Friends of the Library (FOL)	2nd Wed / 7 pm	Library	Ashley Fioretti (235-3000)
Historical Society	1st Thurs / 7 pm	MSHS	David Wright (235-2376)
Library Trustees	4th Wed / 7 pm	Library	Kristal Hier (235-1297)
Planning Commission	1st Mon /	Town Office	Hilary Solomon (235-1115)
Selectboard	2nd & 4th Thurs / 7pm	Town Office	Terry Redfield (235-2084)
Town Facilities Planning	1st & 3rd Thurs / 7 pm	Town Office	Terry Redfield (235-2084)
Wells Springs School Board	1st Wed	MSSES/WES	Meredith Morgan (235-2059)

Town Newsletter

Lots of information in a snippet & list format, plus a Calendar of Events. No ads, articles, or minutes.

This supplements and enhances the Town website & Front Porch Forum (FPF) and will serve the needs of those who don't regularly use computers.

Digital copies are available as a PDF. The PDF is posted on FPF and the Town website or is sent free via email to those who sign up. It is also available in hard copy, delivered by USPS, to those who subscribe for \$6 a year postage. Copies are posted at the Town Office, Grant's Village Store, and the Library.

Submit News & Events to:

Middletown Springs Public Library
middletownspringslibrary@gmail.com
 PO Box 1206
 Middletown Springs, VT 05757

Deadline: 25th of the month

Front Porch Forum

Join Front Porch Forum to know what is happening between issues of the middleTOWN NEWSletter. It's free. It's local. And it's friendly.

Check it out at <https://frontporchforum.com/>.

September is:

Save Your Photos Month
 Fall Hat Month
 Better Breakfast Month
 Classical Music Month
 Little League Month
 National Blueberry Popsicle Month
 National Chicken Month
 National Courtesy Month
 National Honey Month
 National Italian Cheese Month
National Library Card Sign Up Month
 National Mushroom Month
 National Papaya Month
 National Piano Month
 National Rice Month
 Self-Improvement Month
 National Square Dance Month